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 SECURITY INFORMATION  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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REPORT

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CD NO.

COUNTRY China  
 SUBJECT Economic - Agriculture, water conservancy  
 HOW PUBLISHED Daily newspaper  
 WHERE PUBLISHED K'ai-feng  
 DATE PUBLISHED 5 Apr 1952  
 LANGUAGE Chinese

DATE OF INFORMATION 1952

DATE DIST. 8 Jul 1952

NO. OF PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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SOURCE Honan Jih-pao.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DIRECTIVE  
ON CHING CHIANG FLOOD DIVERSION PROJECT

On 31 March 1952, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government issued a directive on the Ching Chiang Flood Diversion Project. The directive called for completion of the basic control features of the project, including the massive strengthening of the north dike of the river and construction of locks and diversion dikes by the beginning of the flood season.

An Engineering Committee and an Engineering General Headquarters were ordered to be established with members drawn from various governing organs of the Central-South China Region. Labor forces, materials supply, and technical personnel were to be supplied from sources in the same regions with the possibility of aid from the Central Government if they proved inadequate.

Peiping, 3 April (Hsin-hua) -- To reduce the destructive effects of extra-high flood waters in the Yangtze River in the area between Sha-shih and Hankow and reduce the strain on the dikes of the Tung-ting Hu the Government Administration Council, on 31 March, issued the following directive concerning the Ching Chiang Flood Diversion Project. (Ching Chiang is the local name of the section of the Yangtze between Sha-shih and Hankow):

1: The central feature of the 1952 operation is large-scale strengthening of the big dike of the Ching Chiang to insure that it will not be breached by floods. The required funds may be increased following consultation. The actual detailed working plans and the budget statistics will be provided by the Yangtze River Water Conservancy Committee in coordination with the Hupeh People's Government. They will also decide upon the termination date of the work.

2. Before the flood season of 1952 the dike on the south bank of the diversion basin and the flood inlet lock and control lock must be completed together with related works. The quality of the engineering must be raised. The responsibility for providing the labor force rests with the provinces of Hupeh and Hunan and the military.

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3. Under ordinary circumstances the new diversion basin will not be used for flood diversion during 1952. Should a specially high flood arise in the Yangtze River and seriously threaten the big Ching Chiang dike, and if the work on the diversion project has been finished, the matter of diverting the flood may be taken under advisement. However, the Government Administration Council must first receive and approve an appeal from the Central-South China Military and Administrative Committee before the diversion basin may be used.

4. The removal of the population of the diversion basin area should be carried out by the Hupeh government before the beginning of the flood season.

5. As for retention basins on the north side of the Yangtze River investigations and surveys may be begun; however, no policy should be decided upon until other basic control plans have been considered and compared with the retention basin plan.

6. To assure the completion of the basic engineering phases of the Ching Chiang project in 1952 the Central-South China Military and Administrative Committee shall set up a strong, able Ching Chiang Flood Diversion Committee and an Engineering General Headquarters organization. Members of these organizations shall be drawn from the members of the Yangtze River Water Conservancy Committee, members of the People's Governments of Hupeh and Hunan provinces, and representatives of the military forces involved in the project. Strong cadres of the Central-South China Military and Administrative Committee shall be assigned as chairmen and vice-chairmen. The administrative and technical personnel of the Engineering General Headquarters shall be drawn from the personnel of the various military units concerned.

Since time is all-important in the completion of this project, the above measures must be effected with all speed. Should the labor, materials, and technical resources of the Central-South China Region be insufficient, specific requests should be submitted to the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government for action.

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